WIKIPEDIA

1961

1961: January · February · March · April · May · June · July · August · September · October · November · December

1961 (MCMLXI) was a common year starting on Sunday of the Gregorian calendar, the 1961st year of the Common Era (CE) and *Anno Domini* (AD) designations, the 961st year of the 2nd millennium, the 61st year of the 20th century, and the 2nd year of the 1960s decade.

As *MAD Magazine* pointed out on its cover for the March **1961** issue, this was the first "upside-up" year — i.e., one in which the numerals that form the year look the same as when the numerals are rotated upside down, a strobogrammatic number — since 1881.[1] The next such year will be 6009.[2]

Millennium:	2nd millennium
Centuries:	19th century · **20th century** · 21st century
Decades:	1940s · 1950s · **1960s** · 1970s · 1980s
Years:	1958 · 1959 · 1960 · **1961** · 1962 · 1963 · 1964

1961 in various calendars

Gregorian calendar	1961 *MCMLXI*
Ab urbe condita	2714
Armenian calendar	1410 ԹՎ ՌՆԺ
Assyrian calendar	6711
Bahá'í calendar	117–118
Balinese saka calendar	1882–1883
Bengali calendar	1368
Berber calendar	2911
British Regnal year	9 Eliz. 2 – 10 Eliz. 2
Buddhist calendar	2505
Burmese calendar	1323
Byzantine calendar	7469–7470
Chinese calendar	庚子年 (Metal Rat) 4657 or 4597

Contents

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Events

January

- January 3
  - United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower announces that the United States has severed diplomatic and consular relations with Cuba (Cuba–United States relations are restored in 2015).
  - At the National Reactor Testing Station near Idaho Falls, atomic reactor SL-1 explodes, killing 3 military technicians.
  - Aero Flight 311 (Koivulahti air disaster): Douglas DC-3C OH-LCC of Finnish airline Aero crashes near Kvevlax (Koivulahti), on approach to Vaasa Airport in Finland, killing all 25 on board, due to pilot error: an investigation finds that the captain and first officer were

both exhausted for lack of sleep, and had taken excessive alcohol at the time of the crash. It remains the deadliest air disaster to occur in the country.

- January 5
  - Italian sculptor Alfredo Fioravanti marches into the U.S. Consulate in Rome, and confesses that he was part of the team that forged the Etruscan terracotta warriors in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
  - After the 1960 military coup, General Cemal Gürsel forms the new government of Turkey (25th government).
- January 7 – Following a four-day conference in Casablanca, five African chiefs of state announce plans for a NATO-type African organization to ensure common defense. The Charter of Casablanca involves the Casablanca Group: Morocco, the United Arab Republic, Ghana, Guinea, and Mali.
- January 8 – In France, a referendum supports Charles de Gaulle's policies on independence for Algeria.
- January 9 – British authorities announce they have uncovered a large Soviet spy ring, the Portland Spy Ring, in London.
- January 17
  - President Dwight Eisenhower gives his final State of the Union Address to Congress. In a Farewell Address the same day, he warns of the increasing power of a "military–industrial complex."
  - Patrice Lumumba of the Republic of Congo is assassinated.
- January 20 – John F. Kennedy is sworn in as the 35th President of the United States.
- January 24 – A B-52 Stratofortress, with two nuclear bombs, crashes near Goldsboro, North Carolina.
- January 25
  - In Washington, D.C., President John F. Kennedy delivers the first live presidential news conference. In it, he announces that the Soviet Union has freed the two surviving crewmen of a USAF RB-47 reconnaissance plane, shot down by Soviet flyers over the Barents Sea on July 1, 1960 (see RB-47H shot down).
  - *Disney's One Hundred and One Dalmatians* is released in cinemas.
  - Acting to halt 'leftist excesses', a junta composed of two army officers and four civilians takes over El Salvador, ousting another junta that had ruled for three months.
- January 26 – President John F. Kennedy appoints Janet G. Travell to be his physician, the first woman to hold this appointment.

	— to — 辛丑年 (Metal Ox) 4658 or 4598
Coptic calendar	1677–1678
Discordian calendar	3127
Ethiopian calendar	1953–1954
Hebrew calendar	5721–5722
Hindu calendars	
- Vikram Samvat	2017–2018
- Shaka Samvat	1882–1883
- Kali Yuga	5061–5062
Holocene calendar	11961
Igbo calendar	961–962
Iranian calendar	1339–1340
Islamic calendar	1380–1381
Japanese calendar	Shōwa 36 (昭和３６年)
Javanese calendar	1892–1893
Juche calendar	50
Julian calendar	Gregorian minus 13 days
Korean calendar	4294
Minguo calendar	ROC 50 民國50年
Nanakshahi calendar	493
Thai solar calendar	2504
Tibetan calendar	阳金鼠年 (male Iron-Rat) 2087 or 1706 or 934 *— to —* 阴金牛年 (female Iron-Ox)

- January 28 – *Supercar*, the first family sci-fi TV series filmed in Supermarionation, debuts on ATV.
- January 30 – President John F. Kennedy delivers his first State of the Union Address.
- January 31 – Ham the Chimp, a 37-pound (17-kg) male, is rocketed into space aboard Mercury-Redstone 2, in a test of the Project Mercury spacecraft, designed to carry United States astronauts into space.

2088 or 1707 or 935

Jan. 20: John F. Kennedy inaugurated as the 35th President of the United States

February

- February 1 – The United States tests its first Minuteman I intercontinental ballistic missile.[3]
- February 3 – China buys grain from Canada for $60 million.
- February 4 – The Portuguese Colonial War begins in Angola.
- February 5 – February 9 – In Congo, President Joseph Kasa-Vubu names Joseph Iléo as the new Prime Minister.
- February 9 – The Beatles perform for the first time at The Cavern Club.
- February 12 – The USSR launches *Venera 1* towards Venus.
- February 13 – The Congo government announces that villagers have killed Patrice Lumumba.
- February 14 – Discovery of the chemical elements: Element 103, Lawrencium, is first synthesized in Berkeley, California.
- February 15
  - President Kennedy warns the Soviet Union to avoid interfering with the United Nations' pacification of the Congo.[4]
  - Sabena Flight 548 crashes near Brussels, Belgium, killing 73, including the entire United States figure skating team and several coaches.
  - A total solar eclipse occurs in the southern part of Europe.
- February 25 – The last public trams in Sydney, Australia cease operation, bringing to an end the Southern Hemisphere's largest tramway network.
- February 26 – Hassan II is pronounced King of Morocco.

March

- March–April – Drilling for Project Mohole is undertaken off the coast of Guadalupe Island, Mexico.
- March 1 – United States President John F. Kennedy establishes the Peace Corps.
- March 3 – Hassan II is crowned King of Morocco.
- March 8
  - Max Conrad circumnavigates the earth in 8 days, 18 hours and 49 minutes, setting a new world record.
  - The first U.S. Polaris submarines arrive at Holy Loch.
- March 11 – "Barbie" gets a boyfriend, when the "Ken" doll is introduced in the United States.[5]
- March 13

    - Black and white £5 notes cease to be legal tender in the UK.
    - A dam bursts in Kiev, USSR, killing 145.
    - United States delegate to the United Nations Security Council Adlai Stevenson votes against Portuguese policies in Africa.
    - United States President John F. Kennedy proposes a long-term "Alliance for Progress", between the United States and Latin America.[6]
    - Cyprus joins the Commonwealth of Nations, becoming the first small country in the Commonwealth.[7]
    - Monash University in Melbourne, Australia takes in its first students.
    - A second B-52 crashes near Yuba City, California, after cabin pressure is lost and the fuel runs out. Two nuclear weapons are found unexploded.
- March 15
    - South Africa announces it will withdraw from the Commonwealth of Nations, upon becoming a republic (31 May). The nation rejoins the organization in 1994.
    - The Union of Peoples of Angola, led by Holden Roberto, attacks strategic locations in the north of Angola. These events result in the beginning of the colonial war with Portugal.
- March 18
    - A ceasefire takes effect, in the Algerian War of Independence.
    - *Nous les amoureux* by Jean-Claude Pascal (music by Jacques Datin, text by Maurice Vidalin) wins the Eurovision Song Contest 1961 for Luxembourg.
- March 29 – The Twenty-third Amendment to the United States Constitution is ratified, allowing residents of Washington, D.C. to vote in presidential elections.
- March 30 – The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs is signed at New York.

April

- April 5 – The New Guinea Council of Western Papua is installed.
- April 8 – British passenger ship *Dara* blows up and sinks off Dubai; 238 passengers and crew are killed.
- April 11 – The trial of Nazi Adolf Eichmann begins in Jerusalem.
- April 12
    - *Vostok 1*: Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes the first human in space, orbiting the Earth once before parachuting to the ground.
    - Albert Kalonji takes the title *Emperor Albert I Kalonji* of South Kasai.
- April 13 – In Portugal, a coup attempt against António de Oliveira Salazar fails.
- April 17
    - The Bay of Pigs Invasion of Cuba begins; it fails by April 19.
    - The 33rd Academy Awards ceremony is held in Santa Monica, California: *The Apartment* (1960) wins most awards, including Best Picture.
- April 18 – Portugal sends its first military reinforcement to Angola.
- April 20 – Fidel Castro announces that the Bay of Pigs Invasion has been defeated.

April 12: Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin through outer space.

- April 22 – Algiers putsch: Four French generals who oppose de Gaulle's policies in Algeria fail in a coup attempt.
- April 23 – Judy Garland performs in a legendary comeback concert, at Carnegie Hall in New York City.
- April 24 – Swedish warship *Vasa*, sunk on her maiden voyage in 1628, is recovered from Stockholm Harbor.
- April 27
  - President Kennedy urges newspapers to consider national interest in times of struggle against "a monolithic and ruthless conspiracy", in an address before the American Newspaper Publishers Association.[8]
  - Sierra Leone becomes independent from the United Kingdom.

May

- May 4 – U.S. Freedom Riders begin interstate bus rides, to test the new U.S. Supreme Court integration decision.
- May 5 – Mercury program: Alan Shepard becomes the first American in space, aboard Mercury-Redstone 3.
- May 6 – Tottenham Hotspur F.C. becomes the first team in the 20th century to win the English league and cup double. As of 2020, this is the last time Tottenham have won the English League.
- May 8 – Briton George Blake is sentenced to 42 years imprisonment for spying.
- May 9 – In a speech on "Television and the Public Interest" to the National Association of Broadcasters, FCC chairman Newton N. Minow describes commercial television programming as a "vast wasteland".
- May 14 – Civil rights movement: A Freedom Riders bus is fire-bombed near Anniston, Alabama, and the civil rights protestors are beaten by an angry mob of Ku Klux Klan members.
- May 15 – J. Heinrich Matthaei alone performs the Poly-U-Experiment, and is the first person to recognize and understand the genetic code. This is the birthdate of modern genetics.[9]
- May 16 – Park Chung-hee takes over in a military coup, in South Korea.
- May 19 – *Venera 1* becomes the first man-made object to fly-by another planet by passing Venus (however, the probe had lost contact with Earth a month earlier, and does not send back any data).
- May 21 – Civil rights movement: Alabama Governor John Patterson declares martial law in an attempt to restore order, after race riots break out.
- May 22 – An earthquake rocks New South Wales.
- May 24 – Civil rights movement: Freedom Riders are arrested in Jackson, Mississippi for "disturbing the peace", after disembarking from their bus.
- May 25 – Apollo program: President Kennedy announces, before a special joint session of Congress, his goal to put a man on the Moon before the end of the decade.
- May 27 – Tunku Abdul Rahman, Prime Minister of Malaya, holds a press conference in Singapore, announcing his idea to form the Federation of Malaysia, comprising Malaya, Singapore, Sarawak, Brunei and North Borneo (Sabah).
- May 28 – Peter Benenson's article "The Forgotten Prisoners" is published in several internationally read newspapers. This is later considered the founding of the human rights organization Amnesty International.
- May 30 – Rafael Leónidas Trujillo, totalitarian despot of the Dominican Republic since 1930, is killed in an ambush, putting an end to the second longest-running dictatorship in Latin American history.

- May 31
  - In France, rebel generals Maurice Challe and Andre Zelelr are sentenced to 15 years in prison.
  - South Africa becomes a republic, and officially leaves the Commonwealth of Nations.
  - President John F. Kennedy and Charles de Gaulle meet in Paris.
  - Benfica beats Barcelona 3–2 at Wankdorf Stadium, Bern and wins the 1960–61 European Cup (football).

June

- June 1 – Ethiopia experiences its most devastating earthquake of the 20th century, with a magnitude of 6.7. The town of Majete is destroyed, 45% of the houses in Karakore collapse, 17 kilometers (11 mi) of the main road north of Karakore are damaged by landslides and fissures, and 5,000 inhabitants in the area are left homeless.
- June 4 – Vienna summit: John F. Kennedy and Nikita Khrushchev meet during two days in Vienna. They discuss nuclear tests, disarmament and Germany.
- June 16 – Russian ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev requests asylum in France, while in Paris with the Kirov Ballet.
- June 17
  - A Paris-to-Strasbourg train derails near Vitry-le-François; 24 are killed, 109 injured.
  - The New Democratic Party of Canada is founded, with the merger of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) and the Canadian Labour Congress.
- June 19 – The British protectorate ends in Kuwait, and it becomes an emirate.
- June 22 – Moise Tshombe is released, for lack of evidence, of connection to the murder of Patrice Lumumba.
- June 23 – The Antarctic Treaty comes into effect.
- June 25 – Iraqi president Abd al-Karim Qasim announces he is going to annex Kuwait (such an annexation of Kuwait will occur in 1990).
- June 27 – Kuwait requests British help; the United Kingdom sends in troops.

July

- July 4 – Soviet submarine K-19 suffers a reactor leak in the North Atlantic.
- July 5 – The first Israeli rocket, *Shavit 2*, is launched.[10][11]
- July 8 – A mine explosion in Czechoslovakia leaves 108 dead.
- July 12 – A Czechoslovakian Ilyushin Il-18 crashes while attempting to land at Casablanca, Morocco, killing all 72 persons on board.
- Two dams that supplied water to the City of Pune, India burst, causing lasting damage.
- July 17 – Baseball legend Ty Cobb dies at the age of 74, at Emory University Hospital.
- July 21 – Mercury program: Virgil I. Grissom, piloting the Mercury-Redstone 4 spacecraft *Liberty Bell 7*, becomes the second American to go into space (sub-orbital). After splashdown, the hatch prematurely opens, and the spacecraft sinks (it is recovered in 1999).
- July 25 – U.S. President John F. Kennedy gives a widely watched TV speech on the Berlin crisis, warning "we will not be driven out of Berlin." Kennedy urges Americans to build fallout shelters, setting off a four-month debate on civil defense.
- July 31

- At Fenway Park in Boston, the first Major League Baseball All-Star Game tie occurs, when the game is stopped in the 9th inning due to rain (the only tie until 2002).
- Ireland submits the first application from a non-founding country to join the European Economic Community.

August

- August – The United States founds the Alliance for Progress.
- August 1 – The Six Flags Over Texas theme park officially opens to the public.
- August 6 – *Vostok 2*: Soviet cosmonaut Gherman Titov becomes the second human to orbit the Earth, and the first to be in outer space for more than one day.
- August 7 – *Vostok 2* lands in the Soviet Union.
- August 10 – The United Kingdom applies for membership in the European Economic Community.
- August 11 – An annular solar eclipse is visible from the Southern Ocean.
- August 13 – Construction of the Berlin Wall begins, restricting movement between East Berlin and West Berlin, and forming a clear boundary between West Germany and East Germany, Western Europe and Eastern Europe. On August 22 Ida Siekmann jumps from a window in her tenement building trying to flee to the West, becoming the first of at least 138 people to die at the Wall.
- August 21 – Jomo Kenyatta is released from prison in Kenya.
- August 25 – João Goulart replaces Jânio Quadros as President of Brazil (he is ousted in 1964).
- August 30 – The Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness is signed at the United Nations in New York, coming into effect December 13, 1975.[12]

September

- September 1
  - The Eritrean War of Independence officially begins, with the shooting of the Ethiopian police by Hamid Idris Awate.
  - The first meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement is held. The Soviet Union resumes nuclear testing, escalating fears over the ongoing Berlin crisis.
- September 7 – Tom and Jerry make a return with their first episode since 1958, *Switchin' Kitten*. The new creator, Gene Deitch, makes 12 more Tom and Jerry episodes until 1962.
- September 10 – During the F1 Italian Grand Prix on the circuit of Monza, German Wolfgang von Trips, driving a Ferrari, crashes into a stand, killing 14 spectators and himself.
- September 12 – The African and Malagasy Union is founded.
- September 14
  - The new military government of Turkey sentences 15 members of the previous government to death.
  - The Focolare Movement opens its first North American center in New York.
- September 17
  - Military rulers in Turkey hang former prime minister Adnan Menderes, together with the former Minister of Foreign Affairs Fatin Rüştü Zorlu and former Minister of Finance Hasan Polatkan.

    - The world's first retractable roof stadium, the Civic Arena, opens in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- September 18 – United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld dies in an air crash, en route to Katanga, Congo.
- September 21 – In France, the OAS slips an anti-de Gaulle message into TV programming.
- September 24
    - The old Deutsche Opernhaus in the Berlin neighborhood of Charlottenburg is returned to its newly rebuilt house, as the Deutsche Oper Berlin.
    - In the U.S., the Walt Disney anthology television series, renamed *Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color*, moves from ABC to NBC after seven years on the air, and begins telecasting its programs in color for the first time. Years later, after Disney's death, the still-on-the-air program will be renamed *The Wonderful World of Disney*.
- September 28 – A military coup in Damascus, Syria effectively ends the United Arab Republic, the union between Egypt and Syria.
- September 30 – The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is formed to replace the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC).

October

- October 1 – Baseball player Roger Maris of the New York Yankees hits his 61st home run in the last game of the season, against the Boston Red Sox, setting a new record for the longer baseball season. The record for the shorter season is still held by Babe Ruth.
- October 10 – A volcanic eruption on Tristan da Cunha causes the whole population to be evacuated to Britain, where they will remain until 1963.
- October 12 – The death penalty is abolished in New Zealand.
- October 17 – Paris massacre of 1961: French police in Paris attack about 30,000 protesting a curfew applied solely to Algerians. The official death toll is 3, but human rights groups claim 240 dead.
- October 18 – *West Side Story* is released as a film in the United States.
- October 19 – The Arab League takes over protecting Kuwait; the last British troops leave.
- October 25 – The first edition of *Private Eye*, the British satirical magazine, is published.
- October 26 – Cemal Gürsel becomes the fourth president of Turkey (his former title is head of state and government; he is elected as president by constitutional referendum).
- October 27
    - An armistice begins in Katanga, Congo.
    - Mongolia and Mauritania join the United Nations.
    - Confrontation at Checkpoint Charlie: A standoff between Soviet and American tanks in Berlin, Germany heightens Cold War tensions.
    - Fahrettin Özdilek becomes the acting prime minister of Turkey.
- October 29
    - DZBB-TV Channel 7, the Philippines' third TV station, is launched.
    - Devrim, the first ever car designed and produced in Turkey, is released. The project has been completed in only 130 days almost from scratch, a period including decision on the project, research, design, development and production of four vehicles.
- October 30
    - Nuclear weapons testing: The Soviet Union detonates a 58-megaton yield hydrogen bomb known as Tsar Bomba, over Novaya Zemlya (it remains the largest ever man-made

explosion).
    - The Note Crisis: The Soviet Union issues a diplomatic note to Finland, proposing military co-operation.
- October 31
    - Hurricane Hattie devastates Belize City, Belize killing over 270. After the hurricane, the capital moves to the inland city of Belmopan.
    - Joseph Stalin's body is removed from the Lenin Mausoleum.

November

- November 1
    - The Hungry generation Movement is launched in Calcutta, India.
    - The Interstate Commerce Commission's federal order banning segregation at all interstate public facilities officially comes into effect.
    - The Madame Alexander Doll Club is founded by Margaret Doris Winson of Sweet Springs, MO.
- November 2 – *Kean* opens at Broadway Theater in New York City for 92 performances.
- November 3 – The United Nations General Assembly unanimously elects U Thant to the position of acting Secretary-General.
- November 6 – The U.S. government issues a stamp honoring the 100th birthday of James Naismith.
- November 8
    - Imperial Airlines Flight 201/8 crashes while attempting to land at Richmond, Virginia, killing 77 persons on board.
    - KVN, Russia's longest running TV show, airs for the first time on Soviet television.
- November 9 – Robert White records a world air speed record of 4,093 mph (6,587 km/h), in an X-15.
- November 10 – *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller is first published.
- November 11
    - Congolese soldiers murder 13 Italian United Nations pilots.
    - Stalingrad is renamed Volgograd.
- November 14 – Yves Saint Laurent, a luxury fashion brand of France, founded in Rue La Boetie, Paris.
- November 17 – Michael Rockefeller, son of New York Governor and later Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, disappears in the jungles of New Guinea.
- November 18 – U.S. President John F. Kennedy sends 18,000 military advisors to South Vietnam.
- November 19 – A military uprising overthrows the Trujillo regime in the Dominican Republic.
- November 20
    - The funeral of longtime House Speaker Sam Rayburn is held in Washington, D.C. Two former Presidents (Truman, Eisenhower) and one future one (Lyndon B. Johnson) join President Kennedy in paying their respects.
    - İsmet İnönü of the CHP forms the new government of Turkey (26th government, first coalition in Turkey, partner AP).
- November 21 – The "La Ronde" opens in Honolulu, the first revolving restaurant in the United States.

- November 24 – The World Food Programme (WFP) is formed as a temporary United Nations program.
- November 30 – The Soviet Union vetoes Kuwait's application for United Nations membership.

December

- December 1 – Netherlands New Guinea raises the new Morning Star flag, and changes its name to West Papua.
- December 2 – Cold War: In a nationally broadcast speech, Cuban leader Fidel Castro announces he is a Marxist–Leninist, and that Cuba will adopt socialism.
- December 5 – U.S. President John F. Kennedy gives support to the Volta Dam project in Ghana.
- December 9
  - Tanganyika gains independence as a Commonwealth realm, with Julius Nyerere as its first Prime Minister, with Queen Elizabeth II as Queen of Tanganyika, and represented locally by the Governor-General of Tanganyika.
  - 1961 Australian federal election: Robert Menzies' Liberal/Country Coalition Government is re-elected with a one-seat majority, narrowly defeating the Labor Party led by Arthur Calwell. One of the closest election results in Australian history, such a result will not be replicated again until 2016. Notably, former Prime Minister Earle Page loses his seat, although he dies a few days later, never knowing the result.
- December 10 – The Soviet Union severs diplomatic relations with Albania.
- December 11
  - American involvement in the Vietnam War officially begins, as the first American helicopters arrive in Saigon, along with 400 U.S. personnel.
  - Adolf Eichmann is pronounced guilty of crimes against humanity by a panel of three Israeli judges, and sentenced to death.
- December 14 – Walt Disney's first live-action Technicolor musical, *Babes in Toyland*, a remake of the famous Victor Herbert operetta, is released, but flops at the box office.
- December 15 – An Israeli war crimes tribunal sentences Adolf Eichmann to death, for his part in The Holocaust.
- December 17 – A circus tent fire in Niterói, Brazil kills 323.[13]
- December 18 – India opens hostilities in its annexation of Portuguese India, the colonies of Goa, Damao and Diu.
- December 19
  - The Portuguese surrender Goa to India, after 400 years of Portuguese rule.
  - Indonesian president Sukarno announces that he will take West Irian by force, if necessary.
- December 21 – In Congo, Katangan prime minister Moise Tshombe recognizes the Congolese constitution.
- December 23 – Luxembourg's national holiday, the Grand Duke's Official Birthday, is set on June 23 by Grand Ducal decree.
- December 30 – Congolese troops capture Albert Kalonji of South Kasai (who soon escapes).
- December 31 – Ireland's first national television station, *Telefís Éireann* (later RTÉ), begins broadcasting.

Date unknown

- Sheila Burnford's *The Incredible Journey*, a story of three pets travelling through the Canadian wilderness, is published in the United Kingdom.

Births

January

Gabrielle Carteris

Julia Louis-Dreyfus

Bob Peterson

Wayne Gretzky

- January 2
  - Gabrielle Carteris, American actress, and trade union leader
  - Neil Dudgeon, English actor
  - Todd Haynes, American film director
- January 5 – Iris DeMent, American singer, songwriter
- January 7 – Supriya Pathak, Indian actress
- January 8 – Calvin Smith, American athlete
- January 9
  - Al Jean, American television writer
  - Candi Milo, American voice actress, singer
- January 10 – Mark Venturini, American actor (d. 1996)
- January 11
  - Jasper Fforde, British fantasy novelist
  - Karl Habsburg-Lothringen, Austrian politician, noble
- January 13
  - Wayne Coyne, American musician, frontman of the band *The Flaming Lips*
  - Julia Louis-Dreyfus, American actress, producer and comedian
- January 14
  - Rob Hall, New Zealand mountaineer (d. 1996)
  - Mike Tramp, Danish rock singer (*White Lion*)
- January 17 – Maia Chiburdanidze, Georgian chess player
- January 18
  - Peter Beardsley, English footballer
  - Mark Messier, Canadian hockey player
  - Bob Peterson, American animator and voice actor
- January 19 – William Ragsdale, American actor
- January 22
  - Daniel Johnston, American singer-songwriter, musician and artist (d. 2019)
  - Shigeru Nakahara, Japanese voice actor
- January 24 – Guido Buchwald, German football player
- January 26
  - Wayne Gretzky, Canadian hockey player
  - Li Cunxin, Artistic Director for Queensland Ballet

- January 28 – Arnaldur Indriðason, Icelandic writer
- January 27 – Gillian Gilbert, British keyboard player
- January 29 – Petra Thümer, German swimmer
- January 30 – Dexter King, American social activist, son of Martin Luther King Jr.

February

Henry Rollins

Davey Allison

Mark Latham

- February 1 – Volker Fried, German field hockey player
- February 2 – Michael Kay, American sportscaster
- February 3 – Jim Balsillie, Canadian CEO and philanthropist
- February 6 – Yuko Kobayashi, Japanese voice actress
- February 7 – Allen West, African-American politician
- February 8 – Vince Neil, American singer
- February 9
  - John Kruk, American baseball player and commentator
  - Jussi Lampi, Finnish musician and actor
- February 10 – George Stephanopoulos, American political consultant and commentator
- February 11 – Mary Docter, American speed skater
- February 13 – Henry Rollins, American musician and activist
- February 14 – Maria do Carmo Silveira, Prime Minister of São Tomé and Príncipe
- February 15
  - Benoît Chamoux, French alpinist (d. 1995)
  - Cheam Channy, Cambodian politician (d. 2018)
- February 17
  - Meir Kessler, Israeli rabbi
  - Andrey Korotayev, Russian anthropologist, economic historian and sociologist
- February 18 – Hironobu Kageyama, Japanese singer
- February 19 – Justin Fashanu, English footballer (d. 1998)
- February 20
  - Dwayne McDuffie, American writer of comics and television (d. 2011)
  - Phil Powers, American alpinist
- February 21
  - Christopher Atkins, American actor
  - Abhijit Banerjee, Indian-born economist, recipient of the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences
  - Geoff Moore, American Christian musician
- February 22 – Akira Takasaki, Japanese guitarist
- February 25 – Davey Allison, American race car driver (d. 1993)
- February 27 – James Worthy, American basketball player and analyst
- February 28

- Mark Latham, Australian politician
- Richard Waugh, Canadian voice actor

March

- March 1 – Michael Sundin, English television presenter (d. 1989)
- March 3
  - Milorad Mandić, Serbian actor (d. 2016)
  - Mary Page Keller, American actress
  - John Matteson, Pulitzer Prize-winning American biographer
- March 4
  - Ray Mancini, American boxer
  - Steven Weber, American actor
  - Roger Wessels, South African golfer
- March 5 – Charles Poliquin, Canadian strength coach
- March 6 – John Blake American football coach
- March 9
  - Mike Leach, American college football coach
  - Rick Steiner, American professional wrestler
- March 10
  - Mike Bullard, American hockey player
  - Laurel Clark, American astronaut (d. 2003)
  - Mitch Gaylord, American gymnast
- March 11 – Elias Koteas, Canadian film and television actor
- March 14
  - Kim Boyce, American Christian musician
  - Gary Dell'Abate, American radio producer
  - Marc Koska, English businessman and inventor
- March 16
  - Brett Kenny, Australian rugby league player
  - Todd McFarlane, Canadian comic book creator and entrepreneur
  - Michiru Ōshima, Japanese composer
- March 17
  - Umayya Abu-Hanna, Palestine-born Finnish writer and politician
  - Alexander Bard, Swedish musician (Army of Lovers)
  - Sam Bowie, American basketball player
  - Dana Reeve, American actress, singer and activist (d. 2006)
  - Casey Siemaszko, American actor
- March 21
  - Kassie DePaiva, American actress
  - Lothar Matthäus, German footballer

Steven Weber

Laurel Clark

Kassie DePaiva

Yanis Varoufakis

- March 22
  - Simon Furman, British comic book writer[14]
- March 23
  - Norrie McCathie, Scottish footballer (d. 1996)
  - Ali Hewson, Irish activist and businesswoman
  - Helmi Johannes, Indonesian television newscaster
- March 24
  - Mitsuru Ogata, Japanese voice actor
  - Yanis Varoufakis, Greek economist, Greek Finance Minister
- March 25 – Reggie Fils-Aimé, American businessman
- March 26 – William Hague, former UK Foreign Secretary and former Leader of the UK Conservative Party
- March 27 – Tak Matsumoto, Japanese guitarist (B'z)
- March 28 – Byron Scott, American basketball player and coach
- March 29
  - Amy Sedaris, American actress, comedian and writer
  - Gerardo Teissonniere, Puerto Rican pianist
- March 30 – Doug Wickenheiser, Canadian ice hockey player (d. 1999)
- March 31 – Gary Winick, American filmmaker (d. 2011)

Amy Sedaris

April

- April 1
  - Susan Boyle, Scottish singer
  - Kujira, Japanese voice actress
- April 2 – Christopher Meloni, American actor
- April 3
  - Elizabeth Gracen, American beauty queen, actress and model
  - Eddie Murphy, African-American actor and comedian
  - Edward Highmore, English actor
- April 5 – Lisa Zane, American actress
- April 6 – Gene Eugene, Canadian actor and singer (d. 2000)
- April 7
  - DONDI, American graffiti artist (d. 1998)
  - Thurl Bailey, American basketball player
- April 9 – Mick Kennedy, Irish footballer (d. 2019)
- April 10 – Rudy Dhaenens, Belgian road bicycle racer (d. 1998)
- April 11 – Vincent Gallo, American actor
- April 12 – Lisa Gerrard, Australian musician
- April 14
  - Robert Carlyle, Scottish film and television actor
  - Neil Dougherty, American basketball coach (d. 2011)

Eddie Murphy

Vincent Gallo

- Humberto Martins, Brazilian actor
- April 17
  - Frank J. Christensen, American labor leader
  - Boomer Esiason, American football player and color commentator
  - Greg Gianforte, U.S. Representative from Montana's at large district
  - Daphna Kastner, Canadian actress
- April 18 – Jane Leeves, English actress
- April 20
  - Konstantin Lavronenko, Russian actor
  - Don Mattingly, American baseball player
- April 21
  - John Jairo Arias Tascón 'Pinina', Colombian criminal (d. 1990)
  - Cathy Cavadini, American voice actress
- April 22 – Alo Mattiisen, Estonian musician and composer (d. 1996)
- April 23
  - Dirk Bach, German actor and comedian (d. 2012)
  - George Lopez, American actor and comedian
- April 26
  - Mike Francis, Italian singer and composer (d. 2009)
  - Anthony Cumia, American radio personality
- April 27 – Moana Pozzi, Italian pornographic actress, television personality and politician (d. 1994)
- April 28 – Futoshi Matsunaga, Japanese serial killer
- April 29 – Fumihiko Tachiki, Japanese voice actor
- April 30 – Isiah Thomas, African-American basketball player, coach and team owner

Robert Carlyle

Greg Gianforte

Cathy Cavadini

George Lopez

Joe Murray

May

- May 1 – Marilyn Milian, American judge
- May 2 – Steve James, English snooker player
- May 3
  - Joe Murray, American animator
  - David Vitter, U.S. Senator (R-LA)
- May 4
  - Jay Aston, British singer (Bucks Fizz)
  - Mary Elizabeth McDonough, American actress, producer, director and author
- May 5
  - Hiroshi Hase, Japanese professional wrestler
  - Sarah Zivale, American actress
- May 6

- George Clooney, American actor
- Wally Wingert, American actor and voice actor
- Frans Timmermans, Dutch politician and European Commissioner
- May 7 – Robert Spano, American conductor and pianist
- May 8
  - Bill de Blasio, 109th Mayor of New York City
  - Janet McTeer, British actress
  - Akira Taue, Japanese professional wrestler
- May 9
  - Rene Capo, American judoka (d. 2009)
  - John Corbett, American actor and country music singer
- May 10 – Danny Carey, American drummer (Tool, Pigmy Love Circus)
- May 11
  - Paul Begala, American political commentator
  - Lar Park Lincoln, American actress
- May 12 – Billy Duffy, British guitarist (The Cult)
- May 13 – Dennis Rodman, American basketball player and actor
- May 14
  - Urban Priol, German Kabarett artist and comedian
  - Tim Roth, English actor and director
- May 16
  - Solveig Dommartin, French actress (d. 2007)
  - Kevin McDonald, Canadian actor, voice actor and comedian
  - Charles Wright, American professional wrestler
- May 17 – Enya, Irish musician
- May 18 – Jim Bowden, American baseball executive
- May 20 – Clive Allen, British footballer
- May 21 – Brent Briscoe, American actor and screenwriter (d. 2017)
- May 22
  - Mike Breen, American sports announcer
  - Ann Cusack, American actress
- May 23
  - Mitar Subotić, Serbian musician and composer (d. 1999)
  - Karen Duffy, American actress
- May 24 – Ilaria Alpi, Italian journalist (d. 1994)
- May 27 – Peri Gilpin, American actress
- May 28 – Roland Gift, British singer and musician (Fine Young Cannibals)
- May 29 – Melissa Etheridge, American musician
- May 30
  - Ralph Carter, American actor
  - Harry Enfield, English comedian, actor, writer and director

Wally Wingert

George Clooney

John Corbett

Tim Roth

- May 31
  - Ray Cote, Canadian ice hockey player
  - Justin Madden, Australian footballer and politician
  - Lea Thompson, American actress

Kevin McDonald

June

- June 1
  - Paul Coffey, Canadian hockey player
  - Dilipkumar Viraji Thakor, Indian politician
- June 2 – Dez Cadena, American musician
- June 3
  - Lawrence Lessig, American academic and political activist
  - Ed Wynne, English musician (Ozric Tentacles)
- June 4
  - El DeBarge, American urban singer; was member of American urban group DeBarge
  - Sam Harris, American actor and pop musician
- June 5
  - Mary Kay Bergman, American voice actress (d. 1999)
  - Anthony Burger, American musician and singer (d. 2006)
  - Rosie Kane, Member of Scottish Parliament
- June 6 – Tom Araya, Chilean-born rock musician (Slayer)
- June 8 – Katy Garbi, Greek singer
- June 9
  - Michael J. Fox, Canadian-American actor, producer and author
  - Aaron Sorkin, American screenwriter, producer and playwright
- June 10
  - Kim and Kelley Deal, American musicians
  - Maxi Priest, born Max Elliott, British reggae singer
- June 14 – Boy George, born George O'Dowd, British singer-songwriter and music producer
- June 15 – Dave McAuley, Northern Irish boxer
- June 17
  - Muslimgauze, British ethnic electronica and experimental musician (d. 1999)
  - Kōichi Yamadera, Japanese voice actor
- June 18
  - Sakahoko Nobushige, Japanese sumo wrestler (d. 2019)
  - Andrés Galarraga, Venezuelan baseball player
  - Alison Moyet, English singer-songwriter
- June 19 – Bidhya Devi Bhandari, 2nd President of Nepal

Sam Harris

Michael J. Fox

Boy George

Bidhya Devi Bhandari

- June 20 – Karin Kania, German speed skater
- June 21
  - Iztok Mlakar, Slovenian singer-songwriter and theatre actor
  - Joko Widodo, 7th President of Indonesia
- June 23
  - Zoran Janjetov, Serbian comic artist
  - David Leavitt, American novelist
- June 24
  - Raja Yong Sofia, Malaysian aristocrat
  - Lisa Bevill, American Christian musician
  - Iain Glen, Scottish actor
  - Curt Smith, British singer and keyboardist
- June 25
  - Jamil Khir Baharom, Malaysian politician and former military officer
  - Mike Breen, American broadcaster
  - Ricky Gervais, English comedian, actor, writer, director, and singer in Seona Dancing
- June 26 – Greg LeMond, American cyclist
- June 27
  - Tim Whitnall, English playwright, screenwriter and actor
  - Meera Syal, British-Indian comedian and actress
- June 28
  - Jeff Malone, American basketball player
  - Eliezer Melamed, Israeli rabbi
- June 29
  - Greg Hetson, American rock guitarist
  - Sharon Lawrence, American actress, singer and dancer

Joko Widodo

Ricky Gervais

Iztok Mlakar

July

- July 1
  - Diana, Princess of Wales, British Princess and first wife of Charles, Prince of Wales (d. 1997)[15]
  - Vito Bratta, American rock guitarist
  - Ivan Kaye, English actor
  - Jefferson King, British bodybuilder and wrestler
  - Carl Lewis, American athlete
  - Fredy Schmidtke, German track cyclist (d. 2017)
  - Michelle Wright, Canadian country music artist
- July 2
  - Tetchie Agbayani, Filipina actress

Diana, Princess of Wales

- Jimmy McNichol, American child actor
- Samy Naceri, French actor
- Ram Chiang, Hong Kong actor and singer-composer

Forest Whitaker

- July 3
  - Tatiana Aleshina, Russian composer, singer-songwriter, theater artist, and poet
  - Mosi Alli, Tanzanian sprinter
  - Suzanne Dando, English Olympic gymnast
  - Joe Moreira, Brazilian jiu-jitsu practitioner and mixed martial artist
- July 4
  - Charles Hector, Malaysian Human Rights advocate and activist
  - Andrew Zimmern, American television personality (Bizarre Foods)

António Costa

- July 5 – Patrizia Scianca, Italian voice actress
- July 6
  - Richard Mofe-Damijo, Nigerian actor
  - Rick Price, Australian singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and record producer
- July 7
  - Peter Michael Escovedo, American percussionist and musical director
  - Eric Jerome Dickey, American writer

Zbigniew Zamachowski

- July 8
  - Toby Keith, American country music singer
  - Olaf Johannessen, Faroese stage and actor
- July 9 – Raymond Cruz, American actor
- July 10
  - Jacky Cheung, Hong Kong singer and actor
  - Lee Heung-sil, South Korean footballer
  - Liyel Imoke, Nigerian politician
  - Killion Munyama, Zambian-Polish economist, academic lecturer and politician

Elizabeth McGovern

- July 11
  - João Donizeti Silvestre, Brazilian businessman, historian, biologist and politician
  - Ron Luce, American writer
  - Ophir Pines-Paz, Israeli politician
  - Sylvester Tung Kiem San, Indonesian bishop
- July 12 – Mark McGann, English actor, director, writer and musician
- July 13 – Stelios Manolas, Greek footballer
- July 14 – Jackie Earle Haley, American actor
- July 15
  - Forest Whitaker, African-American actor and film director
  - David Cicilline, American politician

- July 16
  - Li Ruiying, Chinese media personality and politician
  - J. Alan Brogan, Irish programmer
- July 17
  - António Costa, Portuguese politician, 119th Prime Minister (2015–present)
  - Jeremy Hardy, English comedian (d. 2019)
  - Guru, American rapper (Gang Starr) (d. 2010)
  - Jonathan Potts, Canadian actor
  - Zbigniew Zamachowski, Polish actor
- July 18 – Elizabeth McGovern, American actress and musician
- July 19
  - Campbell Scott, American actor, director, producer, and voice artist
  - Noriyuki Abe, Japanese anime director
  - Maria Filatova, Soviet gymnast
  - Benoît Mariage, Belgian film director
  - Lisa Lampanelli, American stand-up comedian, actress and insult comic
- July 21
  - Kenji Haga, Japanese entertainment talent, actor and businessperson
  - Mokgweetsi Masisi, 5th President of Botswana
- July 22
  - Irina Rozanova, Russian actress
  - Masumi Hayashi, Japanese serial killer
  - Keith Sweat, American singer
- July 23
  - Milind Gunaji, Indian actor, model, television show host
  - Woody Harrelson, American actor and comedian
  - David Kaufman, American actor and voice actor
- July 24 – Joseph Kony, leader of the Lord's Resistance Army
- July 25
  - Katherine Kelly Lang, American Actress
  - Hugo Teufel III, 2nd Chief Privacy Officer, Department of Homeland Security
- July 26
  - Raquel Dodge, General Prosecutor of Brazil
  - Gary Cherone, American rock singer and songwriter
  - David Heyman, English film producer and founder of Heyday Films
  - Keiko Matsui, Japanese pianist and composer
  - Dimitris Saravakos, Greek footballer
- July 27
  - Ed Orgeron, American football coach
  - Erez Tal, Israeli TV host

Milind Gunaji

Woody Harrelson

Gary Cherone

Katherine Kelly Lang

- July 28
  - Mustafa El Haddaoui, Moroccan footballer
  - Aleksandr Kurlovich, Soviet-Belarusian Olympic weightlifter (d. 2018)
- July 30 – Laurence Fishburne, African-American actor and film director

Laurence Fishburne

August

- August 1 – Danny Blind, Dutch footballer
- August 2 – Pete de Freitas, English musician and producer (d. 1989)
- August 3
  - Art Porter Jr., American jazz saxophonist (d. 1996)
  - Molly Hagan, American actress
  - Nick Harvey, English politician
- August 4
  - Pumpuang Duangjan, Thai megastar singer and actress (d. 1992)
  - Robin Carnahan, Secretary of State of Missouri
  - Barack Obama, 44th President of the United States
  - Lauren Tom, American actress and voice artist
- August 5
  - Mercedes Aráoz, 1st Vice President of Peru
  - Janet McTeer, English actress
- August 7
  - Ileen Getz, American actress (d. 2005)
  - Brian Conley, English actor, comedian, singer and presenter
  - Yelena Davydova, Soviet gymnast
  - Maggie Wheeler, American actress
- August 8
  - The Edge, Irish rock guitarist (U2)
  - Bruce Matthews, American football player
  - Rikki Rockett, American rock drummer (Poison)
- August 9 – John Key, 38th Prime Minister of New Zealand
- August 10 – Beatrice Alda, American actress and filmmaker
- August 11 – Jukka Tapanimäki, Finnish game programmer (d. 2000)
- August 12 – Lawrence, English musician
- August 13
  - Mahesh Anand, Indian actor (d. 2019)
  - Koji Kondo, Japanese video game composer (Nintendo)
- August 14 – Susan Olsen, American actress
- August 15 – Suhasini Maniratnam, Indian actress
- August 16
  - Elpidia Carrillo, Mexican-American actress

Barack Obama

Lauren Tom

Mercedes Aráoz

John Key

- Urara Takano, Japanese voice actress
- August 17 – Uwe Schmitt, German sprinter and hurdler (d. 1995)
- August 18
  - Huw Edwards, BAFTA award-winning Welsh journalist and presenter
  - Bob Woodruff, American television journalist and activist
- August 20
  - Tony Longo, American actor (d. 2015)
  - Plamen Nikolov, Bulgarian footballer
- August 21 – Stephen Hillenburg, American marine biologist, cartoonist and animator (d. 2018)
- August 22 – Roland Orzabal, British musician and songwriter
- August 23
  - Bhupesh Baghel, Indian politician and current Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh
  - Alexandre Desplat, French film composer
- August 24 – Jared Harris, English actor
- August 25
  - Billy Ray Cyrus, American actor and singer
  - Benjamin Bwalya, Zambian footballer and coach (d. 1999)
- August 27 – Tom Ford, American fashion designer and film director
- August 28
  - Jennifer Coolidge, American actress and comedian
  - Deepak Tijori, Indian actor and director
- August 30 – Brian Mitchell, South African boxer
- August 31 – Saleem, Malaysian singer (d. 2018)

Koji Kondo

Stephen Hillenburg

Billy Ray Cyrus

September

- September 1
  - Bam Bam Bigelow, American professional wrestler (d. 2007)
  - Boney James, American saxophonist, songwriter and record producer
- September 2
  - Carlos Valderrama, Colombian footballer
  - Anthony Wong Chau-sang, Hong Kong actor
  - Eugenio Derbez, Mexican actor, comedian and filmmaker
- September 3
  - Andy Griffiths, Australian author
  - Iwan Fals, Indonesian singer-songwriter
  - Yermi Kaplan, Israeli musician
- September 4 – Felix Wong, Hong Kong actor
- September 6

Bam Bam Bigelow

- Akira Kuroiwa, Japanese speed skater
- Bruce W. Smith, American animator, director and producer
- Paul Waaktaar-Savoy, Norwegian rock musician and songwriter (A-ha)
- September 7 – Kevin Kennedy, British actor
- September 11
  - E. G. Daily, American actress, voice artist and singer
  - Virginia Madsen, American actress
- September 12 – Mylène Farmer, Canadian singer and songwriter
- September 13 – Dave Mustaine, American metal singer, guitarist
- September 14 – Martina Gedeck, German actress
- September 15
  - Terry Lamb, Australian rugby league player and coach
  - Dan Marino, American football player
  - Lidia Yusupova, Chechen human-rights lawyer
- September 16 – Jen Tolley, American-Canadian actress, voice actress and singer
- September 17 – Jim Cornette, American author and podcaster
- September 18 – James Gandolfini, American actor and producer (d. 2013)
- September 20
  - Lisa Bloom, American lawyer
  - Caroline Flint, British politician
- September 22
  - Bonnie Hunt, American actress, comedian, writer, director and television producer
  - Catherine Oxenberg, American actress
- September 23 – William C. McCool, U.S. Army Commander and astronaut (d. 2003)
- September 24
  - Fiona Corke, Australian actress
  - Michael Tavera, American composer
- September 25
  - Heather Locklear, American actress
  - Steve Scott, British journalist and presenter
- September 26
  - Wes Hopkins, American football player (d. 2018)
  - Edward M. Kennedy Jr., son of U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy
- September 27
  - Andy Lau, Hong Kong actor and singer
  - Melissa Newman, American artist and singer
- September 28
  - Yordanka Donkova, Bulgarian athlete
  - Wayne Westner A South African Golfer who won twice on the European Tour (d. 2017)

Eugenio Derbez

E. G. Daily

Virginia Madsen

Dave Mustaine

- September 29 – Julia Gillard, 27th Prime Minister of Australia
- September 30
  - Crystal Bernard, American actress and singer
  - Gary Coyne, Australian rugby league player
  - Eric Stoltz, American actor and director
  - Sally Yeh, Hong Kong singer and actress

James Gandolfini

October

- October 1
  - Gary Ablett, Australian rules footballer
  - Rico Constantino, American professional wrestler
- October 3 – Ludger Stühlmeyer, German cantor, composer and musicologist
- October 4
  - Philippe Russo, French singer
  - Jon Secada, Cuban-American singer and songwriter
- October 5 – Matthew Kauffman, American journalist and George Polk Award winner
- October 6 – Mark Shasha, American artist, author, illustrator
- October 10 – Jodi Benson, American actress and singer
- October 11
  - Amr Diab, Egyptian singer
  - Steve Young, American football player
- October 12 – Diego García, Spanish long-distance athlete (d. 2001)
- October 13
  - Rachel De Thame, English gardener and television presenter
  - Doc Rivers, American basketball player and coach
- October 14
  - Jim Burns, British science-fiction illustrator
  - D. B. Sweeney, American actor
- October 15 – Meera Sanyal, Indian banker (d. 2019)
- October 16
  - Scott O'Hara, American pornographic performer, author, poet, editor and publisher (d. 1998)
  - Randy Vasquez, American actor
  - Paul Vaessen, English footballer (d. 2001)
  - Chris Doleman, American football player (d. 2020)
  - Kim Wayans, American actress, comedian, producer, writer and director
- October 18
  - Wynton Marsalis, African-American trumpeter and composer
  - Rick Moody, American writer

Julia Gillard

Jodi Benson

Rachel De Thame

- Gladstone Small, Barbadian-English cricketer
- October 19 – Cliff Lyons, Australian rugby league player
- October 20
  - Les Stroud, Canadian survival expert, filmmaker and musician
  - Michie Tomizawa, Japanese voice actress
- October 22
  - Todd Oldham, American designer
  - Robert Torti, American actor and singer
- October 24 – Dave Meltzer, American wrestling journalist
- October 25
  - Ward Burton, American NASCAR driver
  - Pat Sharp, British radio DJ and host
  - Chad Smith, American musician
- October 26 – Dylan McDermott, American actor
- October 29 – Randy Jackson, African-American musician (The Jackson 5)
- October 31
  - Alonzo Babers, American runner
  - Peter Jackson, New Zealand film director
  - Larry Mullen, Jr., Irish rock drummer (U2)

Kim Wayans

Robert Torti

Dylan McDermott

Peter Jackson

Ralph Macchio

November

- November 1 – Anne Donovan, American basketball player and coach (d. 2018)
- November 2
  - Lisa de Cazotte, American soap opera producer (d. 2019)
  - k.d. lang, Canadian singer and songwriter
- November 3 – David Armstrong-Jones, 2nd Earl of Snowdon
- November 4
  - Daron Hagen, American composer
  - Dominic Heale, British journalist and newsreader
  - Ralph Macchio, American actor
  - Jeff Probst, American television personality
  - Jerry Sadowitz, American-born British stand-up comic and card magician
  - Nigel Worthington, Northern Irish footballer and football manager
- November 5 – Alan G. Poindexter, American astronaut (d. 2012)
- November 9
  - Jill Dando, British journalist and television presenter (k. 1999)
  - Jackie Kay, Scottish poet and novelist
- November 12 – Nadia Comăneci, Romanian gymnast
- November 14

- Ben Coleman, American basketball player (d. 2019)
- Jurga Ivanauskaitė, Lithuanian writer (d. 2007)
- D. B. Sweeney, American actor
- November 16
  - Andrea Prodan, Scottish-Italian film actor, composer and musician
  - Corinne Hermès, French singer, Eurovision Song Contest 1983 winner
- November 18
  - Michael Hawley, American academic and artist (d. 2020)
  - Steven Moffat, Scottish screenwriter
  - Anthony Warlow, Australian singer
- November 19 – Meg Ryan, American actress and film director
- November 20 – Dave Watson, English footballer
- November 21 – Maria Kawamura, Japanese voice actress
- November 22
  - Mariel Hemingway, American actress
  - Stephen Hough, British-Australian pianist
  - Randal L. Schwartz, American computer programmer
- November 24 – Arundhati Roy, Indian writer and activist
- November 28 – Alfonso Cuarón, Mexican film director, screenwriter and producer
- November 29 – Kim Delaney, American actress

Nadia Comăneci

Meg Ryan

Mariel Hemingway

Bill Hicks

December

- December 3 – Marcelo Fromer, Brazilian guitarist
- December 4
  - Roy L. Dennis, disabled American boy (d. 1978)
  - Frank Reich, American football player
- December 5
  - Alan Davies, English-Welsh international footballer (d. 1992)
  - Laura Flanders, British born American journalist
- December 8 – Ann Coulter, American author, conservative commentator and attorney
- December 9
  - Beril Dedeoğlu, Turkish politician and academic (d. 2019)
  - David Anthony Higgins, American actor
- December 10
  - Pasang Lhamu Sherpa, Nepalese Buddhist (d. 1993)
  - Nia Peeples, American actress
- December 12
  - Daniel O'Donnell, Irish singer
  - Sarah Sutton, British actress

- December 13
  - Karen Witter, American actress and model
  - Per Øystein Sørensen, Norwegian lead singer Fra Lippo Lippi
- December 15 – Karin Resetarits, Austrian journalist and politician
- December 16
  - Bill Hicks, American comedian (d. 1994)
  - Jon Tenney, American actor
  - Sam Robards, American actor
  - Shane Black, American film director
- December 19
  - Eric Allin Cornell, American physicist, Nobel Prize laureate
  - Matthew Waterhouse, British actor
  - Reggie White, American football player (d. 2004)
- December 20 – Mohammad Fouad, Arab singer and actor
- December 21 – Francis Ng, Hong Kong actor
- December 22 – Kassim Majaliwa, 10th Prime Minister of Tanzania
- December 23 – Ezzat el Kamhawi, Egyptian novelist
- December 24
  - Ilham Aliyev, 7th Prime Minister of Azerbaijan and 4th President of Azerbaijan
  - Wade Williams, American actor
- December 25
  - Íngrid Betancourt, Colombian senator
  - David Thompson, 6th Prime Minister of Barbados (d. 2010)
- December 26 – John Lynch, Northern Irish actor
- December 27 – Guido Westerwelle, German politician (d. 2016)
- December 29 – Jim Reid, Scottish musician
- December 30
  - Douglas Coupland, Canadian author
  - Bill English, 39th Prime Minister of New Zealand
  - Sean Hannity, American radio/television host and conservative commentator
  - Ben Johnson, Canadian athlete

Matthew Waterhouse

Ilham Aliyev

Bill English

Deaths

January

- January 3 – Auvergne Doherty, Australian businesswoman (b. 1896)
- January 4 – Erwin Schrödinger, Austrian physicist, Nobel Prize laureate (b. 1887)
- January 8 – František Flos, Czech novelist (b. 1864)
- January 9 – Emily Greene Balch, American writer and pacifist, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize (b. 1867)

- January 10 – Dashiell Hammett, American writer (b. 1894)
- January 13
  - Nino Marchesini, Italian actor (b. 1895)
  - Blanche Ring, American singer and actress (b. 1871)
- January 14 – Barry Fitzgerald, Irish actor (b. 1888)
- January 17 – Patrice Lumumba, 1st Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (b. 1925)
- January 18 – Thomas Anthony Dooley III, physician (b. 1927)
- January 21
  - Blaise Cendrars, Swiss writer (b. 1887)
  - John J. Becker, American composer and pianist (b. 1886)
- January 24 – Alfred Carlton Gilbert, American swimmer and inventor (b. 1884)
- January 26 – Stan Nichols, English cricketer (b. 1900)
- January 29 – Jesse Wallace, American naval officer, 29th Governor of American Samoa (b. 1899)
- January 30 – Dorothy Thompson, American journalist (b. 1893)

Erwin Schrödinger

Patrice Lumumba

February

- February 2 – Anna May Wong, Chinese-American actress (b. 1905)
- February 3 – Viscount Dunrossil, Australian Governor-General (b. 1893)
- February 4
  - Hazel Heald, American writer (b. 1896)
  - Sir Philip Game, British army officer, colonial governor and police officer (b. 1876)
- February 6 – Lawrence Dundas, 2nd Marquess of Zetland, British politician (b. 1876)
- February 7 – William Duncan, American actor (b. 1879)
- February 9 – Carlos Luz, Brazilian politician, 19th President of Brazil (b. 1894)
- February 12 – Richmond K. Turner, American admiral (b. 1885)
- February 13 – Arthur Ripley, American film director (b. 1897)
- February 15 – Laurence Owen, American figure skater (b. 1944)
- February 16 – Dazzy Vance, American baseball player (Brooklyn Dodgers) and a member of the MLB Hall of Fame (b. 1891)
- February 17
  - Horatio Berney-Filkin, British army general (b. 1892)
  - Nita Naldi, American actress (b. 1894)
- February 20 – Percy Grainger, Australian composer (b. 1882)
- February 22
  - George de Cuevas, Chilean-American ballet impresario and choreographer (b. 1885)
  - Nick LaRocca, American jazz musician (b. 1889)
- February 26

Carlos Luz

King Mohammed V of Morocco

- Karl Albiker, German sculptor (b. 1878)
- King Mohammed V of Morocco (b. 1909)
- February 28 – Aaron S. "Tip" Merrill, American admiral (b. 1890)

March

Victor d'Arcy

- March 3 – Paul Wittgenstein, Austrian-born pianist (b. 1887)
- March 6 – George Formby, British singer, comedian & actor (b. 1904)
- March 8
  - Sir Thomas Beecham, English conductor (b. 1879)
  - Gala Galaction, Romanian writer (b. 1879)
- March 12
  - Victor d'Arcy, British Olympic athlete (b. 1887)
  - Belinda Lee, English actress (b. 1935)
- March 17 – Susanna M. Salter, first woman mayor in the United States (b. 1860)
- March 22 – Nikolai Massalitinov, Soviet-born Bulgarian actor (b. 1880)
- March 23 – Valentin Bondarenko, Russian cosmonaut (b. 1937)
- March 25 – Arthur Drewry, English administrator, 5th President of FIFA (b. 1891)
- March 26 – Carlos Duarte Costa, Brazilian Roman Catholic archbishop and saint, founder of the Brazilian Catholic Apostolic Church (b. 1888)

April

Zog I of Albania

- April 2 – Wallingford Riegger, American music composer (b. 1885)
- April 3 – Eliseo Mouriño, Argentine footballer (b. 1927)
- April 6 – Jules Bordet, Belgian immunologist and microbiologist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (b. 1870)
- April 7
  - Vanessa Bell, English artist and interior designer (b. 1879)
  - Jesús Guridi, Spanish Basque composer (b. 1886)
  - Marian Driscoll Jordan, American actress and radio personality (b. 1898)
- April 9 – Ahmet Zog/Zog I, Skanderberg III, Albanian political leader, 11th Prime Minister of Albania, 7th President of Albania and King of Albania (b. 1895)
- April 10 – Sir John Hope Simpson, British politician (b. 1868)
- April 11 – Padma Shumsher Jang Bahadur Rana, 16th Prime Minister of Nepal (b. 1882)
- April 12
  - Mbarek Bekkay, 1st Prime Minister of Morocco (b. 1907)
  - Aziz Ezzat Pasha, Egyptian politician (b. 1869)
- April 19 – Manuel Quiroga, Spanish violinist (b. 1892)
- April 21 – James Melton, American tenor (b. 1904)
- April 24 – Lee Moran, American actor (b. 1888)

Padma Shumsher Jang Bahadur Rana

- April 25
  - Robert Garrett, American Olympic athlete (b. 1875)
  - George Melford, American actor (b. 1877)
- April 27
  - Roy Del Ruth, American film director (b. 1893)
  - Minoru Sasaki, Japanese general (b. 1893)
- April 30
  - Dickie Dale, English motorcycle road racer (b. 1927)
  - Jessie Redmon Fauset, American editor, writer and educator (b. 1882)

May

Gary Cooper

- May 3
  - Lajos Dinnyés, 41st Prime Minister of Hungary (b. 1901)
  - Maurice Merleau-Ponty, French phenomenological philosopher (b. 1908)
- May 6 – Lucian Blaga, Romanian poet and philosopher (b. 1895)
- May 13 – Gary Cooper, American actor, better known for his role in *High Noon* (b. 1901)
- May 14 – Albert Sévigny, Canadian politician (b. 1881)
- May 16 – George A. Malcolm, American jurist & educator (b. 1881)
- May 22 – Joan Davis, American actress (b. 1912)
- May 30 – Rafael Trujillo, Dominican politician and soldier, 2-time President of the Dominican Republic (b. 1891)
- May 31 – Walter Little, Canadian politician (b. 1877)

June

Carl Jung

- June 2 – George S. Kaufman, American playwright (b. 1889)
- June 6 – Carl Jung, Swiss psychiatrist (b. 1875)
- June 9 – Camille Guérin, French bacteriologist and immunologist (b. 1872)
- June 14 – Eddie Polo, Austrian-American actor (b. 1875)
- June 15 – Peyami Safa, Turkish journalist and writer (b. 1899)
- June 16 – Marcel Junod, Swiss physician (b. 1904)
- June 17
  - Jeff Chandler, American actor (b. 1918)
  - Thomas Darden, American Rear admiral, 37th Governor of American Samoa (b. 1900)
- June 18 – Eddie Gaedel, American with dwarfism (b. 1925)
- June 23 – Nikolai Malko, Soviet conductor (b. 1883)
- June 24
  - William J. Connors, American politician (b. 1891)
  - George Washington Vanderbilt III, American philanthropist (b. 1914)

- June 25 – John A D McCurdy, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia & pilot (b. 1886)
- June 27
  - Paul Guilfoyle, American actor (b. 1902)
  - Mukhtar Auezov, Kazakh writer (b. 1897)
- June 30 – Lee de Forest, American inventor (b. 1873)

Jeff Chandler

July

- July 1
  - Nasuhi al-Bukhari, Syrian soldier and politician, 12th Prime Minister of Syria (b. 1881)
  - Louis-Ferdinand Céline, French writer (b. 1894)
- July 2 – Ernest Hemingway, American writer, Nobel Prize laureate (suicide) (b. 1899)
- July 4 – Franklyn Farnum, American actor (b. 1878)
- July 6
  - Konstantinos Logothetopoulos, Prime Minister of Greece (b. 1878)
  - Woodall Rodgers, American politician, 43rd Mayor of Dallas (b. 1890)
- July 9 – Whittaker Chambers, American spy and witness in Hiss case[16][17][18] (b. 1901)
- July 15 – Nina Bari, Russian mathematician (b. 1901)[19]
- July 17 – Ty Cobb, American baseball player and a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame (b. 1886)
- July 23
  - Esther Dale, American actress (b. 1885)
  - Valentine Davies, American screenwriter (b. 1905)
  - Princess Teru of Japan (b. 1925)
- July 28 – Harry Gribbon, American actor of silent films (b. 1885)

Nasuhi al-Bukhari

Ernest Hemingway

Ty Cobb

August

- August 1 – Domingo Pérez Cáceres, Spanish Roman Catholic priest and saint (b. 1892)
- August 4
  - Zoltán Tildy, 39th Prime Minister of Hungary (b. 1889)
  - Maurice Tourneur, French film director (b. 1873)
- August 5 – Sidney Holland, New Zealand politician, 25th Prime Minister of New Zealand (b. 1893)
- August 8 – Mei Lanfang, Beijing opera star (b. 1894)
- August 9 – Walter Bedell Smith, American general and diplomat (b. 1895)
- August 11 – William Jackson, American gangster (b. 1920)
- August 14
  - Henri Breuil, French priest, archaeologist, anthropologist and ethnologist (b. 1877)

- Clark Ashton Smith, American writer and sculptor (b. 1893)
- August 20 – Percy Williams Bridgman, American physicist, Nobel Prize laureate (b. 1882)
- August 23
  - Gotthard Sachsenberg, German World War I naval aviator and fighter ace (b. 1891)
  - Beals Wright, American tennis player (b. 1879)
- August 26
  - Howard P. Robertson, American physicist (b. 1903)
  - Gail Russell, American actress (b. 1924)
- August 30
  - Charles Coburn, American actor (b. 1877)
  - Cristóbal de Losada y Puga, Peruvian mathematician and mining engineer (b. 1894)

Sidney Holland

September

- September 1 – Eero Saarinen, Finnish architect (b. 1910)
- September 3
  - Richard Mason, British explorer (b. 1934)
  - Fay-Cooper Cole, American anthropologist (b. 1881)
- September 4 – Isidore Fattal, Syrian Orthodox bishop (b. 1886)
- September 10 – Leo Carrillo, American actor (b. 1880)
- September 11 – George Irving, American actor (b. 1874)
- September 16 – Hasan Fehmi, Turkish politician (b. 1879)
- September 17
  - Miguel Gómez Bao, Spanish-born Argentine actor (b. 1894)
  - Adnan Menderes, Turkish statesman, 9th Prime Minister of Turkey (executed) (b. 1899)
- September 18 – Dag Hammarskjöld, Swedish diplomat, politician and author, 2nd Secretary General of the United Nations, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize (b. 1905)
- September 21 – Georgia Ann Robinson, community worker and first African American woman to be appointed a Los Angeles police officer (b. 1879)
- September 22 – Marion Davies, American actress (b. 1897)
- September 23
  - Elmer Diktonius, Finnish poet and composer (b. 1896)
  - John Elderdge, American actor (b. 1904)
- September 24 – Sumner Welles, American diplomat (b. 1892)
- September 25 – Frank Fay, American actor (b. 1897)
- September 26
  - Robert L. Eichelberger, American general (b. 1886)
  - Juanita Hansen, American actress (b. 1895)

Adnan Menderes

Dag Hammarskjöld

October

Marion Davies

- October 1 – Donald Cook, American actor (b. 1901)
- October 2 – Essington Lewis, Australian industrialist (b. 1881)
- October 4
  - Metropolitan Benjamin, Soviet Orthodox missionary and writer, Exarch of Russian Church in North America (b. 1880)
  - Max Weber, Polish-American artist (b. 1881)
- October 11
  - Lucy Tayiah Eads, Kaw tribal chief (b. 1888)
  - Chico Marx, American comedian (b. 1887)

Chico Marx

- October 13
  - Louis Rwagasore, 2nd Prime Minister of Burundi (assassinated) (b. 1932)
  - Maya Deren, Russian-born filmmaker (b. 1917)
  - Zoltán Korda, Hungarian screenwriter and director (b. 1895)
  - Dun Karm Psaila, Maltese writer (b. 1871)
- October 14
  - Paul Ramadier, French politician, 63rd Prime Minister of France (b. 1888)
  - Harriet Shaw Weaver, English political activist (b. 1876)

Sergio Osmeña

- October 19
  - Şemsettin Günaltay, Turkish historian and politician, 8th Prime Minister of Turkey (b. 1883)
  - Sergio Osmeña, Filipino politician, 4th President of the Philippines (b. 1878)
- October 21 – Karl Korsch, German Marxist theoretician (b. 1886)
- October 22
  - Joseph Schenck, Russian-born film studio executive (b. 1878)
  - Aloys Van de Vyvere, 25th Prime Minister of Belgium (b. 1871)
- October 26 – Milan Stojadinović, 12th Prime Minister of Yugoslavia (b. 1888)
- October 30 – Luigi Einaudi, Italian economist and politician, 2nd President of Italy (b. 1874)

November

- November 1 – Mordecai Ham, American evangelist (b. 1877)
- November 2
  - James Thurber, American humorist (b. 1894)
  - Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa I, 12th Hakim of Bahrain (b. 1894)
- November 3 – Thomas Flynn, British Roman Catholic prelate and reverend (b. 1880)
- November 9 – Ferdinand Bie, Norwegian Olympic athlete (b. 1888)
- November 15
  - Elsie Ferguson, American actress (b. 1883)

- Johanna Westerdijk, Dutch plant pathologist (b. 1883)
- November 16 – Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives (b. 1882)
- November 22 – Anselmo Alliegro y Milá, Cuban politician, 3rd Prime Minister of Cuba, leader of World War II (b. 1899)
- November 24 – Ruth Chatterton, American actress, novelist, and aviator (b. 1892)
- November 25 – Adelina de Lara, British composer (b. 1872)
- November 30
  - Anna Gould, American heiress and socialite; daughter of financier Jay Gould (b. 1875)
  - Ehrenfried Pfeiffer, German scientist (b. 1899)

Anselmo Alliegro y Milá

December

- December 2 – Herbert Pitman, British sailor, third officer of the RMS *Titanic* (b. 1877)
- December 3 – Pat O'Hara Wood, Australian tennis player (b. 1891)
- December 6 – Frantz Fanon, Caribbean philosopher (b. 1925)
- December 10 – Elwyn Welch, New Zealand farmer, ornithologist, conservationist and Open Brethren missionary (b. 1925)
- December 13 – Anna Mary Robertson Moses aka Grandma Moses, American naïve painter (b. 1860)
- December 15 – Gioacchino Failla, Italian-born American physicist (b. 1891)
- December 20
  - Moss Hart, American dramatist (b. 1904)
  - Earle Page, Australian politician, 11th Prime Minister of Australia (b. 1880)
- December 23 – Kurt Meyer, German *Generalmajor der Waffen-SS* and war criminal (b. 1910)
- December 25 – Otto Loewi, German-born pharmacologist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (b. 1873)
- December 27 – Bernard McConville, American screenwriter (b. 1887)
- December 28 – Edith Wilson, First Lady of the United States from 1915-1921 (b. 1872)
- December 29
  - Anton Flettner, German aviation engineer and inventor (b. 1885)
  - Sibyl Morrison, first female barrister in New South Wales, Australia (b. 1895)

Kurt Meyer

Edith Wilson

Date unknown

- Constantin Constantinescu-Claps, Romanian general (b. 1884)

Nobel Prizes

- Physics – Robert Hofstadter, Rudolf Mössbauer

- Chemistry – Melvin Calvin
- Physiology or Medicine – Georg von Békésy
- Literature – Ivo Andrić
- Peace – Dag Hammarskjöld (posthumously)

See also

- Upside down year

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